BLM Fire Geospatial Technologies Strategic Plan
Preliminary Goals and Objectives

The preliminary goals and objectives are arranged by 5 subject categories, Management and Budget, Standardization, Data Sharing and Distribution, Education and Outreach and Interagency Coordination. Within each category, there are one to several goals with draft objective statements designed to meet the goal.

MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

Goal: Provide strategic direction within BLM Wildland Fire Management for geospatial technology consistent with the Bureau Architecture and the Office of Fire and Aviation IT strategy.

1. Establish the organizational framework to enable the BLM Fire GIS community to successfully communicate within the system and to provide an environment of support for innovation and implementation of ideas
2. Provide a consistent strategy for meeting the needs of Wildland Fire geospatial issues including interagency participation and incident support, within the bounds set by the Bureau Architecture and Fire and Aviation program.
3. Advise the BLM Fire & Aviation Chief Information Officer regarding decisions, policies and standards applicable to geospatial technologies.
4. Maintain the Fire Geospatial Strategic Plan and modify or adapt it as necessary
5. Provide guidance to State/Field Offices on wildland fire geospatial funding requests and opportunities with respect to current administrative priorities.

Goal: Participate and coordinate with ongoing efforts including the Bureau Architecture, E-Planning and the Bureau-wide Enterprise GIS (E-GIS).

1. Ensure fire's geospatial technology needs are represented in the BA including E-GIS architectures.
2. Ensure the fire GIS community understands the requirements of the BA and E-GIS architectures.

Goal: Support funding mechanisms which enable cost-sharing for data acquisitions, licensing agreements, and Bureau-wide GIS initiatives.

1. Coordinate with other BLM programs to identify mutually beneficial geospatial information technology resource needs and make recommendations for acquisition to the F&AM CIO.

Goal: Coordinate with fire management staff to ensure BLM's wildland fire geospatial technology tools, data and staffing requirements are recognized and supported within current and future budgets.

1. Assure that staff knowledgeable in geospatial technologies are in place to support budget analysis and modeling
2. Assure budget analysis and planning tools have the capability to analyze the need for geospatial resources including infrastructure, tools, data, and staff.

STANDARDIZATION

Goal: Define "useful levels" of geospatial standards for the wildland fire community.
1. Develop and maintain spatial data standards to support interagency use of geospatial information in support of all aspects of the interagency wildland fire program.
2. Create and maintain metadata for all BLM Fire GIS data intended for users unfamiliar with the production of those data,
3. Ensure procedural standardization of geospatial technologies from the field level and from wildfires to provide efficient and economic use of GPS and digital data that is collected.

DATA SHARING AND DISTRIBUTION

Goal: Support geospatial data acquisition, sharing and distribution within the Bureau for Fire and Aviation Management and coordinate with other relevant data repositories and clearinghouses.
1. Identify and establish high priority Fire related geospatial datasets necessary to support implementation of the National Fire Plan and wildland fire management activities.
2. Maintain and enhance ftp.nifc.gov to increase the availability and use of shared data by providing access and download/upload capabilities, and links to state-specific data.
3. Encourage participation in or support creation of interagency geospatial resources consortiums to (1) develop funding mechanisms for multi-agency data purchases; (2) purchase the data sets

Goal: Support efforts which result in common databases and reduce the current redundancy of data entry within F&AM systems.
1. Identify opportunities for geospatial technology to correct/enhance alphanumeric databases within the Fire program.

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Goal: Ensure adequate funding is available for geospatial education and training
1. Educate managers and staff to understand the need for continuing geospatial education/training.
2. Identify geospatial training opportunities within the BLM and encourage the use of interagency training opportunities.

Goal: Promote integration of geospatial technology within the Fire program by raising awareness about the uses and benefits of geospatial technology.
1. Incorporate geospatial technologies into the curriculum of appropriate Wildland Fire training courses including ICS courses and academies to ensure all in the wildland fire community have an adequate level of knowledge and experience regarding geospatial technologies and their application.

2. Highlight capability of appropriately used geospatial technologies to improve firefighter safety.
3. Increase communication and enhance collaborative abilities within the Fire GIS Community using web enabled technologies
4. Ensure data stewards identified by the wildland fire programs are educated in the collection, maintenance, and standardization of geospatial data.

INTERAGENCY COORDINATION

Goal: Ensure participation in interagency efforts such as the Geospatial Task Group and IRM Working Team.
1. Establish and support the structures and processes that ensure effective coordination and partnerships with other agencies.
2. Facilitate the development of interagency partnerships which advance GIS technology, provide services and support to benefit the wildland fire community.

Goal: Reduce obstacles to interagency geospatial support of wildland fire management.
1. Identify barriers to geospatial support which currently exist in wildland fire management.
2. Support the development of a common wildland fire interagency geospatial enterprise architecture that includes but is not limited to GIS, GPS, and remote sensing.

Goal: Promote interagency standard procedures, data standards and data collection efforts for the wildland fire community.
Please see the Standardization section.